Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 PARIS 06938 01 OF 02 091717Z ACTION CU-03

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 USIA-06 OPR-02 DODE-00 PA-01

-----091909Z 088845 /45

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FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 0423

INFO USMISSION NATO

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY BONN

CONFIDENTIAL SECTION 01 OF 02 PARIS 06938

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, NATO, OVIP, XT, FR, MARR, CSCE

SUBJ: WEU ASSEMBLY DEFENSE COMMITTEE VISIT TO THE

UNITED STATES

REFS: A. STATE 047012. B. STATE 049898.

- 1. BEGIN SUMMARY: THIS MESSAGE RESPONDS TO ADMINISTRATIVE QUERIES IN REFS. IN ADDITION, CHAIRMAN CRITCHLEY WISHES TO HOLD PRESS CONFERENCE IN WASHINGTON SO HE AND COMMUNIST PARLIAMENTARIANS CAN EXPOSE THEIR POSITIONS. ACTION REQUESTED: GUIDANCE ON PRESS CONFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS. END SUMMARY.
- 2. BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED: TENTATIVE SCHEDULE CONTAINED REF A PASSED TO WEU STAFFER WHO EXPRESSED HIS AND CHAIRMAN CRITCHLEY'S APPRECIATION.
- 3. FOLLOWING COMMENTS AND RESPONSES ARE KEYED TO CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 02 PARIS 06938 01 OF 02 091717Z

QUESTIONS IN PARA 3, REF A:

A. TWO PARLIAMENTARIANS HAVE INFORMED WEU STAFF THAT WIVES WILL ACCOMPANY: LA COMBE (RPR-FRANCE) AND KONEN (DEMOCRAT-LUXEMBOURG).

B. PARLIAMENTARIANS HAVE BEEN ADVISED BY WEU TO INFORM THEIR NATIONAL EMBASSIES IN WASHINGTON OF ARRIVAL FLIGHT NUMBERS AND TIMES.

- C. ALL MEMBERS OF VISITING CONTINGENT HAVE BEEN ADVISED TO RESERVE FLIGHTS FROM WASHINGTON TO LOS ANGELES AFTERNOON OF WEDNESDAY, 30 MARCH, AND ON AIR WEST FLIGHT 519 ON 31 MARCH.
- D. WEU APPRECIATES DOD OFFER TO RESERVE HOTEL ROOMS IN LOS ANGELES FOR THREE NIGHTS. AT PRESENT, WEU STAFF STATES THAT 42 PARTICIPANTS PLAN TO GO ON WEST COAST LEG. REQUEST 40 SINGLES AND 2 DOUBLES (FOR LA COMBE AND KONEN) PLUS WHATEVER NUMBER OF ROOMS NEEDED FOR INTERPRETERS WHO WILL ACCOMPANY FROM WASHINGTON (OR WILL INTERPRETERS BE HIRED LOCALLY IN LOS ANGELES?). NO PARTICIPANTS HAVE YET INDICATED DESIRE TO STAY L.A. THROUGH NIGHT OF APRIL 2. WE WILL ADVISE IF ANY DO.
- E. RE DOD CHARTER BUS ARRANGEMENTS IN CALIFORNIA COULD BUS PICK UP GROUP ON ARRIVAL L.A. AIRPORT EVENING 30 MARCH AT 2030 HOURS? WILL BUS COSTS BE AT USG EXPENSE? WEU CAN MEET COSTS IF NECESSARY.
- F. WEU ACCEPTS WITH APPRECIATION OFFER OF BUS
 TRANSPORTATION AT USG EXPENSE IN WASHINGTON. MEMBERS
 HAVE BEEN ADVISED BY WEU TO RESERVE AT HOWARD JOHNSON
 ACROSS FROM WATERGATE, BUT MANY REPORT NO RESPONSE
 FROM HOWARD JOHNSON. REQUEST DEPARTMENT ADVISE HOTEL
 AND ASK IT TO RESPOND TO RESERVATION REQUESTS. AT
 PRESENT, WEU IS INFORMED THAT 44 PARTICIPANTS PLAN TO
 GO FOR WASHINGTON VISIT, THOUGH SOME WILL DROP OUT AS
 DATE APPROACHES. CHAIRMAN CRITCHLEY WILL STAY AT HOME
 OF SPENCER OLIVER, STAFF DIRECTOR OF COMMISSION ON
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CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 PARIS 06938 01 OF 02 091717Z

SECURITY AND COOPERATION IN EUROPE (CSCE). AS FAR AS IS KNOWN, ALL OTHERS ARE REQUESTING ROOMS AT HOWARD JOHNSON. CRITCHLEY WILL MAKE OWN ARRANGEMENTS FOR TRAVEL AROUND WASHINGTON. WEU ADVISES THAT SIR JOHN MORETON, DCM, UK EMBASSY, WILL HOST RECEPTION AT HIS HOME, 3220 NEBRASKA AVENUE, N.W.,ON EVENING MARCH 29. CAN BUS PICK UP GROUP AT 1815 FOR TRAVEL TO MORETON'S HOME AND PICK THEM UP FOR RETURN TO HOTEL AT 2030?

- G. WE WILL POUCH LATEST LIST OF PARTICIPANTS.
 AS TO PROTOCOL ORDER, BE GUIDED BY WEU LISTING. WEU
 WILL REVISE LIST AS NECESSARY IF MEMBERS CANCEL.
- H. RE INTERPRETERS AND QUERY IN REF B, WEU
 REQUESTS INTERPRETERS CAPABLE OF INTERPRETING QUESTIONS
 FROM DUTCH, ENGLISH, FRENCH, GERMAN, AND ITALIAN INTO
 BOTH ENGLISH AND FRENCH. THUS ALL SESSIONS WILL NEED

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PAGE 01 PARIS 06938 02 OF 02 091721Z ACTION CU-03

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CONFIDENTIAL SECTION 02 OF 02 PARIS 06938

START TO FINISH INTERPRETATION IN BOTH ENGLISH AND FRENCH, WITH CAPABILITY TO TRANSLATE A FEW QUERIES OR STATEMENTS MADE IN DUTCH, GERMAN, OR ITALIAN INTO BOTH FRENCH AND ENGLISH. WEU HOPES THIS CAN BE ACCOMPLISHED BY THREE MULTILINGUAL INTERPRETERS. CAN SIMULTANEOUS EQUIPMENT BE TAKEN TO MEETING WITH SENATE ARMED SERVICES COMMITTEE ON MARCH 30? END UNCLASSIFIED.

BEGIN CONFIDENTIAL:

AMEMBASSY BONN

4. WEU STAFFER INFORMS US THAT CHAIRMAN CRITCHLEY WISHES TO HOLD PRESS CONFERENCE "AS EARLY DURING WASHINGTON STAY AS POSSIBLE." CRITCHLEY WOULD PREFER TO HOLD CONFERENCE AT STATE, DOD, OR SENATE ARMED SERVICES COMMITTEE, BUT WILL HOLD IT AT HOTEL IF USG PREFERS. CRITCHLEY, WHO IS OUTSPOKEN, VIEWS PRESS CONFERENCE AS CHANCE TO ADVERTISE WEU AND PERMIT CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 PARIS 06938 02 OF 02 091721Z

COMMUNIST PARLIAMENTARIANS TO EXPLAIN THEIR POSITIONS.

RECOMMENDATION: IN VIEW OF CRITCHLEY'S DEMONSTRATED CAPACITY TO SAY THE WRONG THING AND PRESENCE OF COMMUNIST PARLIAMENTARIANS, WE RECOMMEND AGAINST USG SPONSORING OR FACILITATING PRESS CONFERENCE. WE BELIEVE THAT WE SHOULD BE AUTHORIZED TO INFORM WEU STAFF THAT IF CRITCHLEY AND HIS GROUP DESIRE TO HOLD PRESS CONFERENCE, THEY ARE FREE TO DO SO AT HOWARD JOHNSON HOTEL. PLEASE ADVISE. END CONFIDENTIAL. RUSH

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